# ARS CSREES ERS NASS Policies and Procedures

**Title:** Occupying Federally Owned Quarters

as a Condition of Employment

**Number:** 414.1

**Date:** 8/5/92

Originating Office: Personnel Division

Personnel Policy and Systems Branch

**This Replaces:** 414.1, 5/26/81

**Distribution:** Headquarters, Areas, and Locations

This DIRECTIVE outlines procedures to be followed and documents required when a Federal employee is required to occupy Federally owned quarters as a condition of employment

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#### 1. REFERENCE

For information on occupying Federal quarters at the convenience of the Federal Government where there is no condition of employment requirement, see MANUAL 245.1.

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#### 2. ABBREVIATIONS

AD - Area Director/Research Leader

AO - Area Officer

APMO - Area Property Management Officer

• PD - Personnel Division

OPF - Official Personnel Folder

RL - Research Leader

#### 3. FORM

ARS-4 - Rates for Quarters and Services Furnished to Federal Employees

• ARS-86 - Occupancy of Federally Owned Quarters (Local Reproduction)

#### 4. **DEFINITION**

**Condition of Employment** is a requirement of a position, not an individual qualification, that an employee must meet and agree to in order to be appointed and continue employment.

#### 5. POLICY

ARS employees will be required to occupy Government quarters as a condition of employment only when:

- Essential program services cannot be given if the employee lives away from the station, or
- Federal property cannot be adequately protected through other means.

The number of employees who occupy Federally owned quarters as a condition of

employment will be kept to an absolute minimum.

#### 6. RESPONSIBILITIES

- The RL will determine those positions whose incumbents must occupy Federally owned quarters as a condition of employment.
- The AD will approve those determinations.

#### 7. PROCEDURE

#### RL

- Determine those positions whose incumbents must occupy Federally owned quarters as a condition of employment.
- Prepare four copies of ARS-86 (Exhibit 1) and attach a brief justification.
- Have employee sign ARS-86.
- Forward ARS-86 and justification to AD.

#### AD

- Approve and forward to APMO three copies of ARS-86 and justification keeping one copy for the files, or;
- Return disapproved ARS-86 unsigned.

#### APMO

- Complete, sign and have employee sign five copies of ARS-4 (Exhibit 2).
- Keep original copy of ARS-4 and distribute the rest as follows:
  - A copy to the servicing personnel staffing specialist, PD along with original ARS-86, and the justification.
  - A copy to the employee.

A copy to the location files.

#### PD

- Establish payroll deductions with the National Finance Center.
- File original ARS-86 and justification on the temporary side of the employee's OPF until the employee vacates the position or the condition of employment is deleted from the position.

#### RL

Instruct employee to move into the quarters.

#### 8. REASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER OF DESIGNATED EMPLOYEES

When an employee who occupies Federally owned quarters as a condition of employment is transferred or reassigned to another position which also requires him/her to occupy such quarters, the AD/RL must submit a new recommendation, justification, and four copies of ARS-86 to cover the new position. If the new position does not require occupying Federally owned quarters as a condition of employment, the employee may continue living in the quarters in accordance with the provisions of MANUAL 245.1 or be required to vacate the quarters.

T. J. CLARK
Deputy Administrator
Administrative Management

Exhibits 1 ARS-86 2 ARS-4

#### Exhibit 1

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

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Exhibit 2

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